

2022 AQS Christmas Countdown with Janome



Block Twenty-three: Shoo Fly Tree

Finished Block Size: 8½" x 8½" Unfinished Block Size: 9" x 9"

By Tracy Ehrhardt

Cutting Instructions

This 9-patch block is a fun holiday variation of the Shoo Fly block, and includes a Japanese Lantern unit in the center. You can choose to make the center tree out of a solid fabric, or fussy-cut a Christmas tree for the triangle.

From the blue fabric, cut:

(1) 5¾" x 5¾" square. Label A.

From the pink fabric, cut:

(4) 3½" x 1¼" rectangles. Label B.

(4) 1¼" x 1¼" squares. Label C.

(2) 1" x 2" rectangles. Label D.

(1) 3½" x 1" rectangle. Label E.

(2) 6" x 3" rectangles. Label F.

From the red solid fabric, cut:

- (6) 1" x 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ " rectangles. Label G.
- (1) 1" x 1" square. Label H.

From the white solid fabric, cut:

- (2) 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles. Label I
- (2) 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles. Label J.
- (1) 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " square. Label K.

From the green fabric (or fussy cut tree fabric), cut:

- (1) Triangle using the template or a triangular 60° ruler.
If using a ruler, cut an equilateral triangle measuring 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each side.

Piecing Instructions

Outer Corner Units

1. Sew a red G rectangle to each side of the white K square. Press the seams to the outside each time and trim any red rectangles that are too long. Place this square on top of the blue A square, right sides together. Pin in place. Sew around all four sides of the square. Press.

Cut the sewn square from corner to corner twice (cutting an X), as shown below, to create four Half Square Triangles. Press the Half Square Triangles open, pressing the seams to the red strip side.



Trim the Half Square Triangles to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " square using your favorite Half Square Triangle ruler, or a ruler with a 45° line you can place on the center seam to square them up.

2. Draw a diagonal line from one corner to the opposite corner on the backside of the pink C squares. Place a marked pink C square on the blue corner of the Half Square Triangle, right sides together, with the drawn line parallel to the center seam. Sew along the drawn line and trim the seam allowance to a quarter inch. Press open.



Left and Right of Tree Units

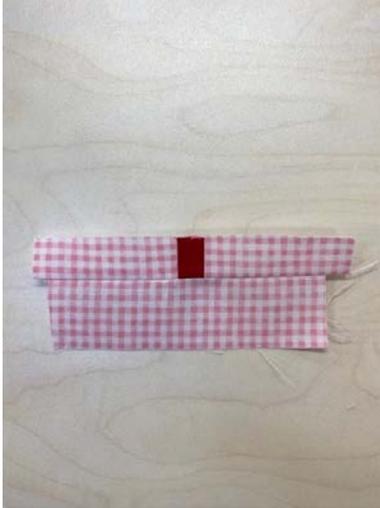
3. Sew a pink B rectangle to the longer edge of a white solid I rectangle. Press the seams toward the pink. Make 2.

Above and Below Tree Units

4. Sew a pink B rectangle the longer edge of a red solid G rectangle. Press the seams toward the red. Sew a solid white J rectangles to the red rectangle. Trim the unit to make sure it is 3½" square. Make 2.

Center Tree Block Unit

5. Sew a pink D rectangle to either side of a red H square as shown below. Sew the pink E rectangle to the bottom, centering it based on the red square/tree trunk.



6. Center the green/fussy-cut tree L triangle on the red square/tree trunk, and sew it to the unit.



7. Trim the unit as shown below, lining a ruler up with the sides of the tree and cutting off the excess on the bottom.



8. Sew a pink F rectangle to one side of the unit making sure there is a generous overlap of fabric. Trim the other side of the tree, as shown below.



9. Sew another pink F rectangle to the other side of the unit. Trim the entire unit to 3½" square, centering the tree in the block.



10. Layout the units as shown above. Sew the units into rows, pressing the seams to the same side alternating each row. Sew the rows together to complete the block, nesting the seams where possible for a clean finish. Block measures 9" x 9" unfinished.

Shoofly Tree

